

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN LOREN SOFT**, on January 20, 1999 at
3:00 P.M., in Room 104 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Loren Soft, Chairman (R)
Rep. Carolyn Squires, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Bob Davies (R)
Rep. Tom Dell (D)
Rep. Mary Anne Guggenheim (D)
Rep. Chase Hibbard (R)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Billie Krenzler (D)
Rep. Ralph Lenhart (D)
Rep. Brad Molnar (R)
Rep. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Rep. Jim Shockley (R)
Rep. Bruce Simon (R)
Rep. Bill Thomas (R)
Rep. Carol Williams (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Roy Brown, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Chris Ahner (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: David Niss, Legislative Branch
Jaelene Racicot, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 157 & HB 269
Executive Action: None

REP. SOFT instructed all witnesses to sign in. **{Tape : 1; Side :**
A; Approx. Tape Counter : 0 - 12}

HEARING ON HB 157

Opening Statement by Sponsor: REP. SQUIRES stated the purpose of the bill was to provide liability car insurance for individuals coming off welfare. Individuals seeking economic freedom face high insurance rates and need a "hand up" in order to succeed in the work force. See **EXHIBIT**(huh15a01). {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 12 - 66}

Proponents' Testimony: Frank Cote, State Auditors Office. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 66 - 86}

Wendy Young, (WEEL) Working for Equality and Economic Liberation. **EXHIBIT**(huh15a02) {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 86 - 100}

Rebecca Moog, (WEEL) Working for Equality and Economic Liberation. **EXHIBIT**(huh15a03) {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 100 - 119}

Kate Cholewa, Montana Women's Lobby. **EXHIBIT**(huh15a04) {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 119 - 147}

Hank Hudson, Department of Public Health and Human. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 147 - 182}

Verner Bertelson, (MSCA) Montana Senior Citizens Association. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 182 - 196}

James O. Southworth, self. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 196 - 217}

Jim Morton, Missoula. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 217 - 228}

Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 228 - 242}

Shella Hogan, CTI, {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 242 - 254}

Kip Smith, Montana Primary Care Association. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 254 - 289}

Opponents' Testimony:

Jacqueline Lenmark, American Insurance Association. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 289 - 331}

Jon Metropolitous, Farmers Insurance. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 331 - 364}

Greg Van Horsen, State Farm. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 365 - 386}

Sue Weingartner, Alliance of American Insurers. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 386 - 466}

Mark Baker, Helena Attorney. {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 466 - 501}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: {Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 501 - 515} Questions continued by committee members. {Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Tape Counter : 0 - 515} Questions continued by committee members {Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 0 - 380}

Closing by Sponsor: REP. SQUIRES closed. {Tape : 2; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 380 - 410}

HEARING ON HB 269

Opening Statement by Sponsor: REP. BRAD MOLNAR, HD 22, introduced the Family Advocacy Program. The program would provide an advocate to a family whose child or children have been taken from them by the Department of Family Services. {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 0 - 101}

Proponents' Testimony:

Frank Fitzgerald representing himself Joliet. See EXHIBIT(huh15a05) {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 101 - 262}

Betty Asplin representing herself from Laurel. See EXHIBIT(huh15a06) {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 262 - 310}

Christine Emerly representing herself from Sun River. {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 310 - 334}

Grace Hassan, self. {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 334 - 382}

Trish Tothill representing herself from Sun River. See **EXHIBIT** (huh15a07) {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 382 - 445}

Charles Tothill, III representing himself from Sun River. See **EXHIBIT** (huh15a08) {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 445 - 478}

Opponents' Testimony:

Chuck Hunter, Administrator for the Child and Family Services Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services. {Tape : 3; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 478 - 515} Mr. Hunter continued to testify through to {Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Tape Counter : 0 - 51}

Ann Gilkey, Supreme Court Assessment Program. {Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Tape Counter : 51 - 144}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 3; Side : B; Approx. Tape Counter : 144 - 515} Questions continued through to {Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 0 - 115}

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. MOLNAR closed. {Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 115 - 261}

REP. SOFT explained to the committee the upcoming bills scheduled to be heard January 22, 1999. {Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 261 - 288}

Mr. Niss explained the amendment passed by the committee on HB 266. The amendment to HB 266 passed by the committee was a two sentence amendment. Mr. Niss stated the two sentence amendment turned into a four pages and wanted the committee to know what took place. {Tape : 4; Side : A; Approx. Tape Counter : 288 - 301}

REP. KRENZLER moved to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 5:55 P.M.

REP. LOREN SOFT, Chairman

JAELENE RACICOT, Secretary

LS/JR

EXHIBIT (huh15aad)